



# TOWN of SURFSIDE

# GAZETTE

DECEMBER  
2009

## Committee Completes Extensive Review of Town Charter

*Lynn M. Dannheisser, Town Attorney*

For the last six months, the Charter Review Committee has been reviewing and where necessary, or considered worthwhile, reworking the Town Charter. The goal established at the outset of the Committee's work was to update, edit and streamline the Charter to make for easier reading. As a result, the new proposed charter has been condensed to about one third the size of the original document! It has been written in plain English so anyone who picks up the document can easily understand it.

There have been a few substantive changes; most have been stylistic. However, some very important issues have been debated and discussed. These include everything from consideration of different forms of government to the concept of

staggered terms and term limits. In the end, the committee has repeatedly concluded that other than those provisions already overturned or invalidated by State law which should be physically removed from the Charter, the majority of existing charter provisions have served the Town well and should remain. Some changes, however, are being proposed, such as the addition of a citizen's bill of rights, the issue of commission compensation, the addition of a regular charter review commission every six years, and a limitation of campaign contributions. The timeline for the remaining work is as follows: another meeting is planned for January to complete the Committee's

*Please turn to the next page* →

## Gazette Gets Makeover

The Surfside Gazette is undergoing a transition. Town staff are making numerous changes to the Town newsletter, including a new full-color design, while keeping within our budget goals. The Gazette will still feature articles regarding the Town Commission meetings, Police Department, Tourist Bureau, Parks and Recreation and various announcements. We will also be offering advertising opportunities in future editions. Further information including a rate sheet will be included in our next issue.

We appreciate your patience in this transition. Change can be challenging and irksome, but our goal is to produce a cost-effective, informative newsletter of which we can all be proud. Your comments and suggestions are always welcome.

## Volunteers Needed for 75th Anniversary

Residents and businesses are invited to participate and volunteer for the Town's upcoming 75th Anniversary celebration in 2010. Help will be needed in organizing, fundraising and staging events. We welcome any Surfside-related memorabilia or period photos that could be shared for this milestone event. If you wish to volunteer or collaborate with the Surfside 75th Committee please contact **Duncan Tavares in the Town of Surfside**

**Tourist Bureau at**  
**dtavares@townofsurfsidefl.gov or by**  
**calling 305-864-0722.**



## FALL HARVEST 2009

The Town of Surfside's Parks and Recreation Department hosted the annual Fall Harvest Festival at 96th Street Park in November. As the collage of photos shows, residents celebrated the season with a variety of fun family activities.



## Charter Review - from Page 1

work. The committee will then reconvene once more in February to adopt a final report that will be presented to the Town Commission in March. The Town Commission will consider this report after the March election. The newly elected Commission will then have the opportunity to review, revise and adopt an amended Charter with the goal of placing the entire document on the ballot for a vote of the citizens of Surfside.

It is anticipated that the vote for the revised Charter will be held at the same time as the November, 2010 Congressional election. This will give the greatest opportunity for voter turnout.

## Restored Town Seal on Display Once Again

After decades out of sight, Surfside's Town Seal sign is back on display at Town Hall. At the September, 2009 Town Commission Meeting, at the suggestion of Vice Mayor Marc Imberman, it was voted to remount the moth-balled Town Seal for all to see.

The Town Seal, originally created in 1962, has been restored and is now in a highly visible location on the Town Hall building on 92nd Street and Harding Avenue. The large seal was previously displayed on the Community Center building. It has been refurbished, painted in vibrant colors and features a Surfside beachgoer and a beach ball.



The refurbished Town Seal is again towering over Surfside, high on the exterior of Town Hall.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Winter Camp

Monday, Dec. 21-31

### Movie Under the Stars

Saturday, Jan. 9, 2010

### Senior Trip to the

### Actor's Playhouse

Wednesday, Jan. 20, 2010

### Family Fun Day

Sunday, Jan. 31, 2010

### 5K Run

Sunday, Feb. 14, 2010

## With Few Volunteers, Library Remains Closed

In late October, a meeting was held with interested citizens wishing to volunteer their efforts to keep a limited-service Surfside Library open for public access. Because only seven volunteers were in attendance, it was determined that there were not enough volunteers to effectuate a minimum library "reading room" program. As such, the library will remain closed. Former patrons are asked to return any library books, DVDs or video tapes to the Surfside Library depository on Harding Avenue. Residents can now select from:

### Sunny Isles Beach Branch Library

18070 Collins Avenue  
North Miami Beach, FL  
Phone: (305) 682-0726

### North Shore Branch Library

7501 Collins Avenue  
Miami Beach, FL 33141  
Phone: (305) 864-5392

### Note:

Contact Miami Dade  
Public Library for  
possible fees at (305)  
375-2665. Visit their  
website at  
[www.mdpls.org](http://www.mdpls.org).

## Public Works Activities

The following projects were recently completed by the Town:

- The landscaping at the 95th Street and Collins Avenue parking lot adjacent to the post office was refurbished this month.
- In June of 2009, a comprehensive energy conservation program was implemented at Town Hall. This coordinated effort has resulted in an energy savings of approximately 17 percent over the prior year.
- Public Works performed an on-site review of the sidewalk deficiencies along Collins Avenue in conjunction with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT). Repairs are scheduled to be completed in the next two months.

## Town of Surfside Beach 5K Run

Join The Town of Surfside for its Fourth Annual 5K Beach Run/Walk on the hard-packed beach sand and walkway.

**8 a.m. Sunday, February 14, 2010**

- Start will be on the beach behind the Best Western Hotel, 94th Street and Collins Avenue.
- Pick-up timing chip on race day from 6:30-7:15 a.m.
- On-line registration is \$25 for adults (**active.com**) and \$15 for children age 14 and under.
- On-line registration ends at noon on Feb. 12.
- Race day fee will be \$35 for adults and \$25 for children age 14 and under.
- Awards to top three overall male and female and in top three male and female in 13 age groups.
- First 150 registrants receive long sleeve t-shirt.
- Packet pick-up available on Saturday, Feb. 13 from 10 a.m.- 4 p.m. at 9293 Harding Ave. and on race day from 6:30-7:15 a.m. at the start.
- Same Day registration from 6:30-7:15 a.m. at the start.

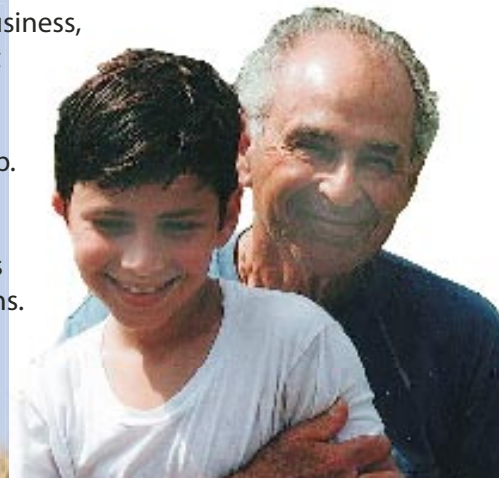


**Don't miss this exciting event!**  
**Register at [active.com](http://active.com)**  
**or call (305) 861-4853**

## Remembering Bernie Edelstein

Residents and Town officials are mourning the recent passing of Bernie Edelstein, a businessman, community activist and Chairman of the Town of Surfside Tourist Bureau Board.

Mr. Edelstein was recently recognized by the Town Commission for his generous support of the Surfside community. Mr. Edelstein was the owner and operator of the family business, Best Western Oceanfront Resort, and a long-standing member of the North Shore Kiwanis Club. He was also recognized for his overall support of many local organizations and charitable institutions.



## John Gentile Named Officer of the Month

For excellent police work in apprehending a burglar, Officer John Gentile was named Officer of the Month for October. On the evening of October 25, Officer Gentile observed a subject riding a bicycle with no light on Harding Avenue. The subject had a backpack, was sweating profusely and acting nervous. He admitted that a television was concealed in the bike basket. Officer Gentile discovered a screwdriver and a large rock in his back pack. The subject had a criminal history and could not justify why he was in this area with the items. He was arrested for Loitering and Prowling and Possession of Burglary Tools.

Officer John Gentile's diligent patrol and alertness led to the investigation and arrest of this subject and may have prevented another crime. The subject was identified by fingerprints for a burglary committed



*Officer Gentile, with family, receives award alongside Mayor Charles Burkett and Assistant Chief of Police John Di Censo.*

in Miami Beach. He was also arrested in Palm Beach County. Officer Gentile was recognized and honored at the November 10 Town Commission meeting.

## Citizen Police Academy Honors Graduates

The Sixth Annual Citizens Police Academy graduates recently celebrated the completion of their training program at a special ceremony on Surfside's beach. Police personnel organized a beachside barbecue to mark the event. The graduates and Town employees attended the party and awards were presented.

*(L-R) Chief of Police David Allen, "Master Chef" Hector Perez, Assistant Chief John Di Censo, Detectives Joe Matthews and Frank Colonna.*



## Holiday Toy Drive

The Surfside Police Department is collecting toys this holiday season for children, ages 6-13. Please show your support and holiday spirit by bringing unwrapped toys to the Surfside Police Station, 9293 Harding Avenue. The last day to donate is Thursday Dec. 17. For more information, contact Officer J. Matelis at (305) 861-4862 or [jmatelis@townofsurfsidefl.gov](mailto:jmatelis@townofsurfsidefl.gov).



## Special Watch Order For Holidays

Surfside residents who are going out of town for the holidays can now request a watch order on their homes. An officer will be available to check on their home on a daily basis. To request a watch order for the holidays or for more information, please call (305) 861-4862.



# Highlights from the Nov. 10 Commission Meeting

## *The Town Commission adopted:*

- A resolution to amend the agreement with Ashbritt, Inc. to allow for Federal reimbursement to the Town.
- A resolution to amend the agreement with Solid Resources, Inc. to allow for Federal reimbursement to the Town.
- A resolution to authorize acceptance of Federal Drug Control and System Improvement Grant.
- An ordinance on seconding to amend the Building Regulations regarding required roofing materials.

## *The Town Commission introduced ordinances on first reading:*

- To address off-street parking and loading.
- The annual update to the Capital Improvement Element of the Town of Surfside's Comprehensive Plan.
- To amend the Purchasing Ordinance to provide for local preferences.

## *In other Town Commission actions:*

- Town Commission approved an extension of the Post Office Parking Agreement.
- Chief of Police David Allen presented Officer John Gentile with a plaque, recognizing him as Officer of the Month.
- Chief of Police David Allen presented a plaque to Sergeant Richard Williams who volunteered his own time as accreditation manager, which played a significant role in the recent accreditation of the Surfside Police Department.

- Eli Tourgeman, Chairman of the Surfside Tourist Bureau Board, along with Commissioner Steven Levine on behalf of Mayor Charles Burkett, presented a proclamation declaring November 10, 2009 "Bernie Edelstein Day" and thanking him for his generous service to the Town of Surfside. The proclamation was accepted by Shepard Edelstein, son of Bernie Edelstein.
- Vice Mayor Marc Imberman, on behalf of Mayor Charles Burkett, presented a proclamation to Cheryl Dusek declaring November 11, 2009 as "Cheryl Dusek Day" in honor of her award as 2008-2009 Miami-Dade County Public Schools Paraprofessional of the Year.
- Roberto Gambach, R.A., Gambach Architects, Inc. was appointed as an architect member to the Design Review Board.



(L-R): Shepard Edelstein (son), Eli Tourgeman (TBB Vice Chair), Commissioner Steven Levine, Duncan Tavares (TB Director), Barbara Cohen (TBB Member), Elaine Killeen (TBB Member)

## SURFSIDE THIRD THURSDAY • DECEMBER 17

### *It's a Holiday Block Party!*

*6-7 p.m. "The Fab Two" perform holiday tunes with a Latin flair*

*• Bring a Toy for Tots*

*7-9 p.m. Enjoy a concert by bands for Live! School of Music*

*• 95th St. and Harding*



PHOTOS COURTESY OF  
ROBERT ANDAI

*Photos from recent Third Thursday event. • Please go to [www.visitsurfsidefl.com](http://www.visitsurfsidefl.com)*

## PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

*Please call (305)866-3635 for Parks and Recreation Department Programming Updates*

CLASS	DAY	DATES & TERM	HOURS	Fee (per person)	No class
Family Fun Time	<b>Child age</b>				
	Monday 18-36 months	1/4/10 - 3/8/10 (8 weeks)	9:30 - 10:15 am	\$65 Residents \$130 Non-Residents	1/18 & 2/15
Pre-School Ballet	Monday 3-8 years old	1/4/10 - 3/8/10 (8 weeks)	3:45 - 4:30 pm 4:45-5:30 pm	\$65 Residents \$130 Non-Residents	
Ballet (Age 6-10)	Monday Age: 6 - 10	1/4/10 - 3/8/10 (8 weeks)	5:45 - 6:30 pm	\$65 Residents \$130 Non-Residents	1/18 & 2/15
Martial Arts	Tuesday Age: 6 - 8 Age: 9 - 11 Age: 12 - 15	1/5/10 - 3/11/10 (10 weeks)	3:45 - 4:45 pm 4:45 - 6:00 pm 6:00 - 7:15 pm	\$135 Residents \$284 Non-Residents	
	Saturday Age: 6 - 8 Age: 9 - 11 Age: 12 - 15		9:00 - 10:00 am 10:00 - 11:30 am 11:30 - 1:00 am		
Gymnastics	Wednesday Age: 3 - 5 Age: 3 - 5 Age: 6 - 13	1/6/10 - 2/24/10 (8 weeks)	3:45 - 4:40 pm 4:45 - 5:40 pm 4:45 - 5:40 pm	\$65 Residents \$130 Non-Residents	
	Thursday Age: 3 - 5	1/7/10 - 2/27/10 (8 weeks)	3:45 - 4:40 pm		
Youth Cheerleading	Wednesday Age: 6 - 12	1/6/10 - 2/24/10 (8 weeks)	5:45 - 6:40 pm	\$65 Residents \$130 Non-Residents	
Intermediate Gymnastics	Thursday Age: 6 - 13 (Instructor approval)	1/7/10 - 2/27/10 (8 weeks)	4:45 - 5:55 pm	\$65 Residents \$130 Non-Residents	
Hip Hop Jazz Dance	Thursday Age: 6 - 13	1/7/10 - 2/27/10 (8 weeks)	6:00 - 6:55 pm	\$65 Residents \$130 Non-Residents	
Kidokinetics	Thursday Age: 6 - 10	1/7/10 - 2/25/10	4:30 - 5:15 pm 5:15 - 6:00 pm	\$88 Residents \$128 Non-Residents	
Soccer	Tuesday & Thursday Age: 4 - 6 coed Age: 6 - 9 coed Age: 10 - 13 girls Age: 10 - 13 boys	1/26/10 - 3/25/10 (9 weeks)	4:00 - 5:00 pm 5:00 - 6:00 pm 6:00 - 7:00 pm 7:00 - 8:00 pm	\$100 Residents \$210 Non-Residents	
Mommy & Me Arts & Crafts	Saturday Age: 3 - 5	1/9/10 - 2/27/10 (8 weeks)	10:30 - 11:15 am	\$65 Residents \$130 Non-Residents	
Arts & Crafts	Saturday Age: 5 - 8	1/9/10 - 2/27/10 (8 weeks)	11:30 - 12:15 pm	\$65 Residents \$130 Non-Residents	
Golf	Sunday Age: 4 - 10	1/10/10 - 2/28/10 (8 weeks)	9:30 - 10:15 am	\$120 Residents \$200 Non-Residents	

## PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT ADULT PROGRAMS

CLASS	DAY	DATES & TERM	HOURS	Fee (per person)	No class
Senior Social Time	Wednesday	1/6/10 - 5/12/10	10:30 - 12:30	FREE	

*Please bring a yoga mat to the following programs*

ZUMBA	Monday Tuesday	1/4/10 - 3/8/10 (8 weeks) 1/5/10 - 2/23/10 (8 weeks)	7:15 - 8:15 pm 9:30 - 10:30 am	Resident \$54 Non-Resident \$110
AEROBICS	Tuesday	1/5/10 - 2/23/10 (8 weeks)	7:15 - 8:15 pm	Resident \$54 Non-Resident \$110
SENIOR YOGA	Wednesday	1/6/10 - 2/24/10 (8 weeks)	9:00 - 10:00 am	Resident \$48 Non-Resident \$82
YOGA	Wednesday	1/6/10 - 2/24/10 (8 weeks)	7:00 - 8:00 pm	Resident \$54 Non-Resident \$110
PILATES	Thursday	1/7/10 - 2/25/10 (8 weeks)	7:00 - 8:00 pm	Resident \$54 Non-Resident \$110

### *Surfside Residents are eligible to use the Miami Shores Aquatic Center*

Fees: \$6.00 per person / per visit, Children 6 months and under are FREE (Surfside Residents must present a valid/current resident ID card upon entry).

For Hours of Operation: Please call (305)795-2241 or Visit [www.miamishoresvillage.com](http://www.miamishoresvillage.com) Surfside Bus Service Schedule Available at: [www.townofsurfsidefl.gov](http://www.townofsurfsidefl.gov)

*Light Up Surfside for the Holidays and win \$100!*



The Surfside Business Association wants you to decorate your home and make this holiday season a bright one for you, your family and your neighbors.

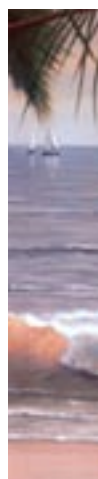
**The best lit Surfside residence will receive \$100 in cash. For more information, visit [www.surfsidebiz.com](http://www.surfsidebiz.com)**

### *Hours for Surfside Lifeguard Tower*

The Surfside Lifeguard Tower located on 93rd Street Beach will only be staffed with lifeguards on Saturdays & Sundays from 9 a.m. – 5 pm.



The Surfside Lifeguard Tower located on 93rd Street Beach will only be staffed with lifeguards on Saturdays & Sundays from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. (Call the Surfside Parks and Recreation Office for fees) Note: The first chair and umbrella is no longer free for the day.



## Surfside Gazette to Accept Advertising

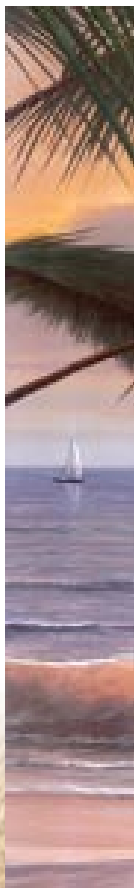
The *Surfside Gazette* will begin accepting advertising in their upcoming 2010 issues. For more information on submitting advertising, please contact Fabienne Josaphat at (305) 861-4863 or [fjosaphat@townofsurfsidefl.gov](mailto:fjosaphat@townofsurfsidefl.gov).





9293 Harding Avenue  
Surfside, Florida 33154

PRESORTED  
FIRST CLASS  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
SURFSIDE, FL  
PERMIT NO. 457



9293 Harding Avenue  
Surfside, Florida 33154

## MEETING CALENDAR

Beautification Committee	2nd Monday of the month	7:15 p.m.
Education Committee	1st Thursday of the month	8 p.m.
Parks & Rec. Committee	3rd Thursday of the month	6 p.m.
Tourist Bureau	1st Monday of the month	6 p.m.
75th Anniversary Committee	1st Tuesday of the month	6 p.m.

Please note that all times and dates listed, except Town Commission meetings, are tentative and subject to change.

To verify the information, contact Town Hall at (305) 861-4863, visit the website [www.townofsurfsidefl.gov](http://www.townofsurfsidefl.gov) or tune in to Channel 77

## TOWN COMMISSION

Charles W. Burkett, *Mayor*  
[mayor@townofsurfsidefl.gov](mailto:mayor@townofsurfsidefl.gov)

Marc Imberman, *Vice Mayor*  
[mimberman@townofsurfsidefl.gov](mailto:mimberman@townofsurfsidefl.gov)

Howard S. Weinberg, *Commissioner*  
[hweinberg@townofsurfsidefl.gov](mailto:hweinberg@townofsurfsidefl.gov)

Steven Levine, *Commissioner*  
[slevine@townofsurfsidefl.gov](mailto:slevine@townofsurfsidefl.gov)

Elizabeth Calderon, *Commissioner*  
[ecalderon@townofsurfsidefl.gov](mailto:ecalderon@townofsurfsidefl.gov)

## TOWN OFFICIALS

Gary Word, *Town Manager*  
[gword@townofsurfsidefl.gov](mailto:gword@townofsurfsidefl.gov)

Lynn M. Dannheisser, *Town Attorney*  
[ldannheisser@townofsurfsidefl.gov](mailto:ldannheisser@townofsurfsidefl.gov)

David Allen, *Police Chief*  
[dallen@townofsurfsidefl.gov](mailto:dallen@townofsurfsidefl.gov)

Debra Eastman, MMC, *Town Clerk*  
[deastman@townofsurfsidefl.gov](mailto:deastman@townofsurfsidefl.gov)

## BUSINESS NUMBERS

Town Hall	(305) 861-4863
Rec Center	(305) 866-3635
Tennis Courts	(305) 866-5176
Tourist Bureau	(305) 864-0722
Library	(305) 865-2409
Police	(305) 861-4862
Fire Rescue	(305) 861-1115

## TOWN WEBSITE

[www.townofsurfsidefl.gov](http://www.townofsurfsidefl.gov)